



## **Whitford Family Centre Inc.**

### **Children's Program Staff and Parents Meeting Minutes,**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2017**

#### **Attendance:**

Jemma Hartley (Children's program)  
Jenny Tough (Children's program)  
Jennifer Moriarty (Green group)  
Laura Robertson (Orange group)  
Vicky Fort (Green group)  
Melissa Nicol (Green & blue group)  
Kym Todorovsk (Green & blue group)  
Jane Gorton (Green group)  
Dona Gordon (Green group)  
Althea Hawley (Blue group)  
Bronwyn Doak (Orange group)  
Colin Moore (Blue group)  
Janine Moore (Blue group)  
Michelle (Orange group)  
Phil Gooch (Red & purple group)  
Belinda Murray (Purple group)  
Wei Lin  
Elizabeth Melendez

#### **Term 1**

What a fantastic start to the year we have had! Children are settling in well and at their own pace. They are developing a sense of belonging and independence.

#### **REMINDERS:**

\*Please label everything (Lunch boxes, drink bottles, shoes, spare clothes, hats)

\*If you are on Facebook please 'like' the Whitfords Family Centre page to see updates on what your children are learning about each week. There will also be reminder posts throughout the year of any events that may be taking place.

\*To help your child can you please take hat, drink bottle and lunch box out of bags and put them on their shelf. This encourages independence in collecting their own things during the day.

\*Please remember we are a healthy eating and nut aware centre. Please refrain from sending eggs or nuts in lunchboxes.

\*Hats all year round— a beanie or hoodie is fine to wear on the cooler days.

\*Please check the whiteboard to see what the session focus will be each week, upcoming events and to see if anything may be needed.



#### **CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:**

Children have had a wonderful start to the year where they have learnt a variety of different skills. Some of the activities they have taken part in are:

\*Water play— using a variety of different toys. There have been dinosaurs, dolls, boats, using dye to mix colours and ice to observe change.

\*Messy play— Exploring different textures; sensory play.

\*Developing gross motor and fine motor skills— Thanks to the amazing new outdoor equipment we have, the children are able to learn a variety of climbing skills. Teachers take the time to show step by step how to move body parts to climb safely and independently. Within the classroom play dough, tongs, peg boards and other equipment are available to strengthen hands in preparation for school. Any activities like these are encouraged at home also to further develop hand strength.

Cultural and Diversity— Children are able to explore many different cultures through different holidays and celebrations throughout the year. This term children have taken part in Harmony day, holding hands, learning each other's names, turn taking, looking at the world map, celebrating St Patricks day and exploring different animals from around the world.

\*Colours— being exposed to different colours through activities, songs, art and craft and mixing colours.

At Whitfords Family Centre teachers follow the Early Years Learning Framework and carry out skills through activities that match the children's interests. This also allows children to settle better and feel more comfortable in their environment.

## PORTFOLIOS—

Throughout the year pieces of work are collected and put in your child's portfolio to

be presented at the end of the year. Please don't worry if your child is not bringing home lots of craft pieces as some of these may have been collected for their portfolio. You are welcome to view these throughout the year.



## FUNDRAISING

Thank you to all parents who helped out on the day and contributed with donations. We had a great day and raised \$867.05 for the centre.

Next term we have fundraising chocolates, one box per family.



## GARDEN CLEAN UP

Sunday 23 April, 9–11am at the centre. Please come and help clean up the children's play area and the centre gardens. Let the office know if you can attend.

Term 2 will start back on Monday 24 April 2017. This is a 10 week term.

Please note Tuesday 25 April is ANZAC DAY Public Holiday and no classes will be held.



Have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you all next term.

